

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 1973

To authorize funds to pay a portion of the startup costs of local handgun exchange programs.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 24 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 22), 1994

Mr. BINGAMAN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To authorize funds to pay a portion of the startup costs of local handgun exchange programs.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. STARTUP OR “SEED MONEY” FOR LOCAL HAND-**

4                       **GUN EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.**

5       (a) FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION.—The Attorney Gen-  
6       eral shall establish a program under which the Attorney  
7       General will enter into agreements to contribute, and will  
8       contribute, up to 50 percent of the funds needed to pay  
9       startup costs of handgun exchange programs operated by  
10      local governments or private entities in which merchandise

1 or services (including entertainment), tickets or certifi-  
2 cates that may be used to acquire merchandise or services,  
3 or other non-cash incentives are given in exchange for  
4 handguns.

5 (b) QUALIFICATIONS, TERMS, AND CONDITIONS.—In  
6 an agreement under subsection (a), the Attorney Gen-  
7 eral—

8 (1) may agree to contribute to the startup costs  
9 of a handgun exchange program an amount that is  
10 not greater than the amount of State and local pub-  
11 lic funds and private funds committed to the pro-  
12 gram at the time of the agreement;

13 (2) shall require that the place at which ex-  
14 changes are to be made allows anonymity for a per-  
15 son who exchanges a handgun;

16 (3) shall require that all firearms that are  
17 turned in to the program will be destroyed;

18 (4) shall require that the program agree to pro-  
19 vide only merchandise or services (including enter-  
20 tainment), tickets or certificates that may be used to  
21 acquire merchandise, or other incentives other than  
22 cash to persons who turn in firearms and that such  
23 incentives be provided by donations from private en-  
24 tities;

1 (5) shall require that startup costs must pertain  
2 to—

3 (A) informing the community of the pro-  
4 gram;

5 (B) getting businesses involved in the pro-  
6 gram; or

7 (C) securing a safe handgun exchange lo-  
8 cation; and

9 (6)(A) may set such other qualifications, terms,  
10 and conditions as may be appropriate to ensure that  
11 the program is operated in an efficient and bona fide  
12 manner consistent with the interests of law enforce-  
13 ment; but

14 (B) may not prescribe the terms under which  
15 the program will accept firearms in exchange for any  
16 offered incentive.

17 (c) TERMINATION.—The program under subsection  
18 (a) shall terminate on September 30, 1995.

19 (d) ALLOCATION.—

20 (1) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—Not more than 2 per-  
21 cent of the total amount appropriated to carry out  
22 this Act for a fiscal year may be allocated to the  
23 making of contributions in any 1 State.

24 (2) PRIORITY.—Within each State—

1 (A) the Attorney General shall give to pri-  
2 ority to creating handgun exchange programs in  
3 areas that are experiencing high rates of crime  
4 in which handguns are used; but

5 (B) urban and rural areas shall each re-  
6 ceive an appropriate amount of assistance.

7 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
8 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section,  
9 out of the Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund to be es-  
10 tablished under section 1115 of title 31, United States  
11 Code, as proposed to be added by section 1353 of the Vio-  
12 lent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1993,  
13 \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1994 and 1995.

14 (f) REPORT.—Not later than December 31, 1995, the  
15 Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report assess-  
16 ing the effect that operation of the handgun exchange pro-  
17 grams funded under this Act has had in reducing the inci-  
18 dence of crime in the jurisdictions in which the programs  
19 were operated.

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